

One sided political manipulation has no place originating from a broadcast television station. The airwaves are a resource belonging to ALL Americans.

They are leased to the highest bidder with certain stipulations. One of those responsibilities is to serve the public interest. Playing partisan politics is NOT in the public interest and is an outright abuse of the privilege of using the public airwaves. Further concentration of media will lead to further abuses.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.